

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 165942

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, IS, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS

1. WITH FOUR DAYS OF "PHILOSOPHICAL" AGREEMENT ON DESIRABILITY OF COMPETITION, ECT. BEHIND US, DELEGATIONS ARE STILL TALKING ABOUT PRACTICAL ACCOMMODATION OF CURRENT ISRAELI INSISTENCE ON UNILATERAL VETO OVER RATES AND FARES TO PROTECTELALFROM PREDATORY PRICING AND USG POSITION THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD LEAVE FARE DECISIONS STRICTLY TO AIRLINE MANAGEMENT.

2. WE APPEAR TO HAVE REACHED SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT ON LIBERALIZATION OF CHARTERS. HOWEVER, AFTER US DEL EXPLAINED THAT USG POLICY ON "OPEN SKIES" (UNLIMITED LANDING RIGHTS IN THE U.S.) WAS UNDER REVIEW, ISRAELIS RETREATED FROM THEIR OPEN SKY PROPOSAL LINKING BOTH UNLIMITED ACCESS TO U.S. TERRITORY AND NO RESTRICTIONS ON FARES TO A CURRENT REQUEST
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FOR FOUR ADDITIONAL LANDING POINTS AND LOW FARE LANGUAGE WITH UNILATERAL VETO OVER FARES THEY JUDGE TO BE PREDATORY AND/OR DISCRIMINATORY.

3. U.S. OFFER IS CURRENTLY TWO ADDITIONAL LANDING POINTS. HOWEVER, ACCESS PROBLEM MAY NOT BE AS THORNY AS AIR FAIR' REGULATION WHICH IS CENTRAL TO USG AVIATION POLICY.

WE CONTINUE TO TALK AND WILL MAKE FURTHER PROPOSALS TOMORROW IN ATTEMPT TO BRIDGE GAP ON FARES AND ACCESS. TALKS MAY WELL CONTINUE INTO EARLY NEXT WEEK. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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